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COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany

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REPORT NO. []

TOPIC Soviet Maneuvers at SEEHAUSEN

EVALUATION [] 25X1

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DATE OF CONTENT Late June to early July 1949

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ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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REMARKS []

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Soviet Maneuvers at SEEHAUSENLate June to early July 1949

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1. Soviet motorized units with which no tanks were observed were practicing in the woods near SEEHAUSEN (M 53/Y 68) late in June 1949. The troops had come to SEEHAUSEN from the direction of PERLEBERG (M 54/T 70) via WITTENBERGE (M 53/Y 69). In WITTENBERGE the route was marked by direction signboards bearing the inscriptions "Y-1" and "G-8".
2. The troops who participated in the practices near SEEHAUSEN started departing on 29 June 1949. Motor vehicles moving on that day through WITTENBERGE and proceeding in the direction of PERLEBERG []
3. Only little north or south-bound through traffic of motor vehicles was observed in WITTENBERGE on 30 June 1949.
4. a. Several convoys, each of 6 to 15 motor vehicles occupied by troops, were observed to leave the training area of SEEHAUSEN via WITTENBERGE in the direction of PERLEBERG on 1 July 1949.
- b. Some motor vehicles towed 76.2-mm antitank guns, []

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c. Source learned that these convoys arrived in the area of WITTSTOCK (M 54/U 11).

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5. a. Motorized units arriving at the WITTENBERGE RR station by road from the south were entrained on four trains on 2 July 1949. Each train consisted of about 60 Rk cars. Trucks, equipment trucks and jeeps were entrained:

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b. Each train was occupied by 200 to 250 troops, 19 to 22 years of age and armed with carbines and submachine guns. No heavy weapons were observed.

c. The entraining activities were supervised by officers who were repeatedly seen riding in the jeep [redacted] in WITTENBERGE.*

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6. a. About 40 motor vehicles and about 250 troops armed with carbines and submachine guns were observed being loaded on a train at the RR station of DUESLAGE (M 53/Y 77) about 2:30 p.m. on 2 July 1949.

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b. The same informant later observed the loading of trucks on a train in OSTERBURG (M 53/Y 77).

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25X1 7. [redacted] Comment

a. No other source has reported that exercises were held in the area south of WITTENBERGE late in June 1949, with component units of all three divisions of the Second Gds Weez Army and small component units of the Fourth Gds Weez Army (Cadre) participating.

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b. The report indicates that the maneuvers concerned, held only by motorized units (no tanks), were completed by 1 July 1949.

c. The troops of both the 9th and 12th Gds Tank Divs (pars. 4 and 5) apparently left for the WITTSTOCK area which is known as the training area of the 12th Gds Tank Div.

d. The trains carrying component units of the 1st Weez Div (par. 5) left via SPENGLAL (possibly going to DOEBERITZ, the quartering area of the division?).

e. If confirmed by other sources, the exercises south of WITTENBERGE could be considered to have been major combined-arms maneuvers of component units of the Second Gds Weez Army, with some units of the Fourth Gds Weez Army (Cadre) participating.

* [redacted] Comment: Informants saw the mentioned trains in PERLEBERG and WITTSTOCK it could not be learned whether or not the trains continued their run from WITTSTOCK.

** [redacted] Comment: The departure in the direction of STENDAL of the two mentioned trains was observed.

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